

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q88399

Masaji TAKAHASHI, et al.

Allowed: August 23, 2007

Appln. No.: 10/541,131

Group Art Unit: 3753

Confirmation No.: 4527

Examiner: John K. Fristoe, Jr.

Filed: June 30, 2005

For: SOLENOID VALVE

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

ATTN: MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

REMARKS

Applicants offer the following comments in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance set forth on page 2 of the Notice of Allowability dated August 23, 2007. In particular, Applicants do not admit to the characterization of the teachings of the prior art set forth in the Statement. Additionally, Applicants note that independent reasons, other than those cited by the Examiner, exist for the allowability of the claims.

Patent Office personnel are requested to note that the present submission does not adversely affect the patent term adjustment accrued by the Applicant to date. As emphasized in the "Clarification of 37 C.F.R. §1.704(c)(10) – Reduction of Patent Term Adjustment for Certain Types of Papers Filed After a Notice of Allowance Has Been Mailed," 1247OG111 (6/26/01), "a response to the examiner's reasons for allowance" is an example of a paper that does "not cause substantial interference and delay in the patent issue process" and is "not considered a 'failure to

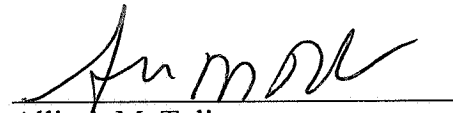
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engage in reasonable efforts' to conclude processing or examination of the application."

Therefore, the Applicant remains entitled to the full patent term adjustment set forth on page 3 of the Notice of Allowance dated August 23, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,



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23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 27, 2007